



## *House of Representatives*

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STANDING  
COMMITTEES:

RULES  
APPROPRIATIONS  
HIGHER EDUCATION  
MINORITY CAUCUS, CHAIRMAN

June 3, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 10-56

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support of Comcast's planned partnership with NBC Universal. I represent the city of Columbus, Georgia, which only two years ago was named one of the Top 100 Best Communities for Young People by America's Promise Alliance. There are many factors that create a nurturing community for young people, but one of them is outstanding broadband service. While Comcast does not serve Columbus, Comcast has provided that edge to many other cities in Georgia, which has pushed the providers in Columbus to demonstrate the same for us.


I was 26 years old when I was first elected to the Georgia Legislature in 1974 — one of the youngest persons ever to take office in our state. In those days, a computer was a room-sized machine that spit out pictures of cartoon characters when you punched out the right holes on a card. Today's 26-year old can't find a job or succeed in graduate school without a computer and a high speed connection to do research. Times have changed, and Comcast has helped us make that change.

While Georgia is a thriving state of 9.4 million citizens, there are some community members who are not as well off as others. Comcast has led the way with helping people like them bridge the digital divide by providing courtesy broadband service to schools, libraries and municipal buildings. Comcast's Foundation also gives opportunities to young people through its Leaders & Achievers Scholarship Program. I very much appreciate these commitments, amongst many others I have witnessed, that Comcast makes to the community.

Improved broadband service helps our businesses compete in today's global economy. No business can afford to stand still. Businesses need to constantly upgrade and obtain better equipment and service. By building out broadband to all Georgians, Comcast helps our businesses move forward and our state attract more economic development.

Comcast has demonstrated a strong commitment to Georgia and the African-American community. That is why I hope you will approve Comcast's partnership with NBC Universal. Thank you for considering my opinion in your review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Calvin Smyre", written in a cursive style.

Representative Calvin Smyre  
State of Georgia

CS/rg

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker